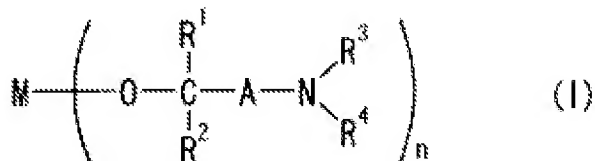


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) An alkoxide compound represented by general formula (I):



wherein one of R^1 and R^2 represents an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and the other represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; R^3 and R^4 each represent an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; A represents an alkanediyl group having 1 to 8 carbon atoms; M represents a silicon atom or a hafnium atom; and n represents 4.

2. (original) The alkoxide compound according to claim 1, wherein A in general formula (I) is a methylene group.

3. (previously presented) The alkoxide compound according to claim 1, wherein M in general formula (I) is a silicon atom.

4. (previously presented) The alkoxide metal compound according to claim 1, wherein M in general formula (I) is a hafnium atom.

5. (previously presented) A material for thin film formation comprising the alkoxide compound according to claim 1.

6. (canceled)

7. (previously presented) The alkoxide compound according to claim 2, wherein M in general formula (I) is a silicon atom.

8. (previously presented) The alkoxide metal compound according to claim 4, wherein M in general formula (I) is a hafnium atom.

9. (previously presented) A material for thin film formation comprising the alkoxide compound according to claim 2.

10. (previously presented) A material for thin film formation comprising the alkoxide compound according to claim 3.

11. (previously presented) A material for thin film formation comprising the alkoxide compound according to claim 4.

12-14. (canceled)